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Work and Workers

PROFESSOR CASPAR RENÉ GREGORY, of the University of Leipzig, lectured on "Movements of German Theological and Philosophical Thought in the Nineteenth Century" at the University of Chicago, November 14 to 22, 1911.

THE CROALL LECTURES on the Origin and Development of the New Testament Writings were given in the Moray Aisle of St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh, November 8 to December 13, 1911, by Professor George Milligan, of the University of Glasgow.

THE NINTH GENERAL CONVENTION of the Religious Education Association will be held at St. Louis, Mo., March 11-14, 1912. The general topic will be "Training Religious Leaders." The programs may be had on application to the Association, 332 South Michigan Ave., Chicago.

ALEXANDER SOUTER, of Mansfield College, Oxford, has been appointed professor of humanity in the University of Aberdeen, and James Moffatt, of Broughty Ferry, the author of the *Historical New Testament, An Introduction to the Literature of the New Testament*, etc., has been invited to succeed him as New Testament professor in Mansfield.

THE HASKELL LECTURES ON COMPARATIVE RELIGION were delivered by Professor Franz Cumont, of Brussels, Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, in Haskell Oriental Museum, November 21 to 28, 1911. His subject was "Astrology and Religion." The lectures were given on the Haskell Foundation, and under the auspices of the American Committee for Lectures on the History of Religions.

THE LATE PROFESSOR HOWARD OSGOOD

PROFESSOR HOWARD OSGOOD, D.D., LL.D., died November 29, 1911, at his late home in Rochester, N.Y. He was born January 4, 1831, in the parish of Plaquemines, Louisiana. His father was a slaveholder, but had freed his slaves some years before the Civil War. The young man, Howard, was sent to Harvard College, where he matriculated in 1846. He left college in 1849, but received the A.B. degree in 1858. He was



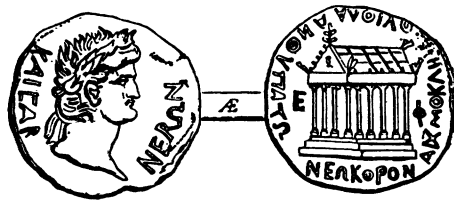
THE LATE PROFESSOR HOWARD OSGOOD, D.D., LL.D.

ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1856; and was pastor at Flushing, L.I., 1856-58; New York City, 1860-66; professor of Hebrew in Crozer Theological Seminary, 1868-74; and in Rochester Theological Seminary, 1875-1900. He was honored with the degrees of D.D. from Brown University, 1868; and LL.D. from Princeton in 1894.

Professor Osgood's literary output consisted of articles in reviews, and a few booklets on themes connected with Old Testament study. But the great work upon which he bestowed the largest amount of his time and effort was the Revised Version. He was a member of the Old Testament Section of the American Revision Company. From the organization of the company in 1871-73 to 1900 he worked continuously and assiduously on the revision; up to 1885 on the edition issued in 1885; but from that date to 1900 on the distinctly American revision, which appeared in August, 1901, as the American Standard Revised Version. The Revised Version was the recipient of his chief efforts for a quarter of a century—during the best years of his professional life. As an Old Testament scholar he was strongly conservative, and a firm ally of Professor William Henry Green, chairman of the Old Testament Section of the American Revision Company. It is, perhaps, within the limits of the truth to say that the death of Dr. Osgood removes the last great scholar who defends the older traditional views of the origin and nature of the Old Testament writings. Dr. Osgood's defense of this position was characterized on the one hand by great learning, and on the other, by his consistent theological attitude, holding firmly as he did, that Jesus was possessed of the omniscience of God, and consequently could not be conceived of as making a statement that was in any respect incorrect. It was sufficient in Dr. Osgood's opinion to ask regarding the authorship of any given piece of literature, "What did Jesus think?" If it was possible to discover an utterance from Jesus upon the subject the question was closed for all time. In this respect Dr. Osgood's position differed fundamentally from that of his contemporary, Dr. Green. The latter admitted fully the necessity of submitting the biblical materials to a most exhaustive and rigid investigation. On the basis of such critical work Dr. Green was convinced that the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch could be vindicated. For Dr. Osgood such investigation was in a certain sense superfluous. One of his best known writings was a pamphlet bearing the title *A Reasonable Hypothesis as to the Authorship of the Pentateuch*. This contribution reflected the wide range of Dr. Osgood's reading, and was to so large an extent a compilation from the writings of other scholars,

that Dr. Briggs remarked with reference to it that the paper itself might easily be resolved into its original documentary sources.

As a man he was genial, lovable, sweet spirited, and a great lover of his students. He was deeply beloved in return by his students. His record is full of acts of kindness, sympathy, and generosity toward them. He preferred to express himself in the lives of his students rather than through the written page. In the highest and best sense of the term he was a Christian gentleman. In many ways he was a representative of that old-fashioned grace and courtesy which we inevitably associate with high-born and high-bred men from the sunny South, where his early life was spent. He had withdrawn from active duties as a teacher in 1901 and had spent his last years in the enjoyment of that ease which rightfully belongs to one who has served his day and generation well according to the will of God.



A COIN OF EPHEBUS